

Literary Allusions in *The Outsiders*

A literary allusion is a reference within a literary work to another work of fiction, a film, a piece of art or a real event.

Authors use literary allusions to help the reader to visualize what's happening by creating a mental picture.

Allusion from text	Reference to whom or what?	Purpose/meaning	Page #	Para #
"...that kid <u>Pip</u> , he reminded me of us - the way he felt marked lousy because he wasn't a gentleman..."	Pip - an English orphan who rises to wealth, deserts his true friends and learns to be loyal in the novel <u>Great Expectations</u> by C. Dickens	Ponyboy identifies himself and the other greasers with Pip. Not only is Ponyboy an orphan, but he is looked down on (marked lousy) by the Socs.	15	2
"I looked over fearfully over my shoulder and there was Two-Bit grinning like a <u>chessy</u> cat."	The <u>Cheshire Cat</u> from <u>Alice in Wonderland</u> , who is both comical and philosophical (funny + wise).	Ponyboy is describing Two-Bit. Two-Bit is funny (the group clown), but he is also wise and understands what is going on.	27	7
The poem "Nothing Gold Can Stay" by Robert Frost	The theme of this poem is that things are always changing. The good things (gold) can't last forever.	This relates to the theme "stay Gold, Ponyboy." How does Ponyboy stay gold as he grows up and changes.	77	9
"...I had read the part about them riding into sure death because they were gallant. They remind me of Dally."	The Southern gentlemen who are gallant and cool even though they are riding to their deaths. They have dignity and are loyal to their cause. From <u>Gone With the Wind</u>	Dally is like ^{the} Southern gentlemen because he takes the blame for something Two-Bit did. He is loyal to his "code."	75 76 79	7+8 1+2 2